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there is some evidence, albeit highly circumstantial, that the pathways involved in mobilizing the breakdown products did not become fully developed until the sixth day of stratification. Stratification also increased the seed's respiratory capacity. This coupled with mobilization of the lipid reserves is believed to have helped ready the seed for germination by providing the embryo with respiratory energy and carbon skeletons for synthetic activities. Nearly 40% of the seed's lipid reserves disappeared during stratification, of which almost 60% were not respired or stored as sugars. The significance of this unaccounted-for carbon in readying the seeds for germination is considered.

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